THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) As per report of Project Poshak by CARE, India carried out in Madhya Pradesh, most of the tribal children examined suffered from 2nd and 3rd degree of mal-nutrition. Overt clinical signs of mal-nutrition were more prevalent among tribals than non-tribals.

(b) Rural infrastructure is providing preventive, promotive and curative health services to the tribals. The State Government has been advised to establish the requisite number of Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres as per the relexed population coverage norms in the tribal areas.

Basic Facilities along all the National Highways

1817. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that even along the national highways basic facilities for drinking water, tea or for taking rest are not available in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to encourage the establishment of such facilities all along the national highways; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has evolved a scheme for setting up passenger-oriented wayside amenities such as parking lots, snack counters, toilets, drinking water, first-aid, telephone, rest-rooms, and petrol pumps with minor repairs/spare shops, along National Highways at about 100 km. intervals for the benefit of travelling public. Multi-disciplinary Teams were constituted for identifying suitable locations for such amenities to be provided through public sector. Recommendations in respect of 12 States have been received and action is being taken for sanction of estimates for First Priority locations in each State. Work of site selection in remaining States is being expedited.

Keeping in view the prevailing resource constraints and public aspirations for such facilities, it has been decided to also involve private sector to finance and manage similar schemes of passenger-oriented amenities. After initial scrutiny of offers received from private enterpreneurs, ten such proposals are under detailed examination. Further offers from private-sector might be invited in due course after decision on the proposals already received has been taken.

Bungling in the Purchase of Medicines

1818. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints that bungling worth crores of rupees has been made by the department in purchase of certain medicines which were made on the basis of 'Single tenders' from firms of no standing in the pharmaceutical line;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon; and

(c) whether the responsibility has been fixed and any officer been punished so far?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) An anonymous complaint in regard to purchase of ceratin drugs on single standard basis has been received. In all these cases indents have been placed with the DGS&D. The DGS&D follows the prescribed procedure and places order on the manufacturer taking into account such factors as past performance and financial standing of

the manufacturer. When the indentors demand a specific item manufactured by a particular firm, then only purchase of drug on single tender basis is resorted to.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Implementation of Orders regarding revision of Pay Scales of Municipal Corporation Teachers

1819. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1216 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the orders dated the 12th August, 1987, regarding revision of pay scales of teachers have been implemented by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether non-implementation of the orders after such a lapse of long period is causing avoidable discontent among the teachers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Corporation to remove the discontent and the date by when these orders are to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Damage to answer papers at Karaikudi Railway Station

1820. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the answer papers of the plus-two examination were badly damaged at Karaikudi railway station when they were taken from Madras recently;

(b) if so, what are the names of persons responsible for the damage caused to the answer papers; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered to that effect by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Sales Tax Levy on Aviation Fuel by the Maharashtra State

1821. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives of different international airlines operating to/through India have protested against he move of Maharashtra State Government to increase sales tax on aviation fuel by 25 per cent; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VOHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Undercutting in Air India Fares

1822. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of undercutting of fares in Air-India due to keen competition among international airlines has given rise to heavy corruption, malpractices and irregularities; and

(b) if so, what is the response of Government in the matter and what steps are being taken to abolish this practice